

142. The method of claim 140, further comprising:

~~ablating the circumferential region of tissue with a circumferential ablation~~  
device assembly having a circumferential ablation element coupled to a circumferential ablation member located on a distal end portion of an elongate catheter body, thereby forming a circumferential lesion which comprises the circumferential conduction block.

143. A method as recited in claim 140, further comprising forming the circumferential conduction block without delivering an electrical current through an ablative fluid medium.

144. A method as recited in claim 140, further comprising forming the circumferential conduction block without contacting the tissue with an ablative fluid medium that chemically ablates the tissue.

145. A method as recited in claim 140, further comprising forming the circumferential conduction block with an ablation element selected from the group of ablation elements consisting of a thermal ablation element, a cryogenic ablation element, a microwave ablation element, and an optical ablation element.

#### REMARKS

Minor modifications have been made to the specification. No claims have been amended. Claim 1 has been canceled. Claims 44-145 have been added. Claims 44-145 remain in the application. Early and favorable consideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested. Allowance of the claims at an early date is courteously solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call applicant's undersigned

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representative at (310) 563-1458 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the  
application in condition for allowance.

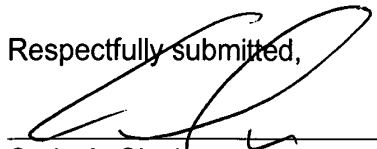
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0638. Should such fees be associated with an extension of time, applicant respectfully requests that this paper be considered a petition therefor.

9/10/01

Date

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**VERSION OF AMENDMENTS WITH MARKINGS TO  
SHOW CHANGES MADE**

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***On page 1, the paragraph beginning on line 1 has been amended as follows:***

Cross-Reference to Related Applications:

This application is a continuation of co-pending application Serial No. 08/752,162, filed November 18, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 6,241,754, which is a divisional of application Serial No. 08/528,805, filed September 15, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,575,810, which is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/137,672, filed October 15, 1993, now abandoned.

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